



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
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Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982  
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
Rockledge One, Suite 360  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, Maryland 20817  
Telephone: (301) 496-7163  
Facsimile: (301) 480-3387

March 2, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#A3410-01 (OLAW Case 7G)  
Ref: ACR#: 11-19-5

Dr. Terry Magnuson  
Vice Chancellor for Research  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Campus Box 4000, (b) (4) South Building  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-4000

Dear Dr. Magnuson,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your February 27, 2020 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, following up on an initial telephone report on December 4, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a graduate student attempted to perform a perfusion on a mouse that was not under a surgical plane of anesthesia.

The corrective actions consisted of the Principal Investigator revoking the student's animal use privileges and removing the student from the protocol. The laboratory staff was retrained on perfusion, anesthetic techniques, and reporting animal concerns.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to correct and prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the institution to comply with the PHS Policy.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.  
Deputy Director  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair  
Education and Oversight Manager, OACU



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL

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### Confidential Letter

Director, Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982  
[olawdco@mail.nih.gov](mailto:olawdco@mail.nih.gov)

Date: February 27, 2020

Institution:	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Assurance #:	D16-00256 (A 3410-01)
NIH Grant #:	R01DA045596
Case #:	11-19-5

Dear Dr. Wolff:

Please find notice of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee's (IACUC) investigation and report of a recent animal welfare concern.

On November 25, 2019, a Principal Investigator (PI) self-reported that a graduate student in their lab had previously attempted to perfuse a mouse that had not reached a surgical plane of anesthesia. The PI reported this to the IACUC as soon as they were made aware of the incident. The PI also personally retrained the lab members in the perfusion and anesthetic techniques and discussed the animal reporting protocol and animal welfare guidelines. The PI removed the graduate student from the protocol as well as the student's access to the animal facilities.

After gathering information and informing the Animal Concern Subcommittee (ACS), the Office of Animal Care and Use (OACU) staff verbally reported this incident to OLAW on December 4, 2019.

The ACS members agreed that the PI's response was adequate and requested that the OACU and Division of Comparative Medicine (DCM) perform additional retraining of current lab members in the perfusion technique, anesthetic administration, and animal reporting guidelines before any further surgical procedures were performed.

The IACUC met to discuss the case on January 10, 2020. The IACUC accepted the ACS recommendations and determined that no additional actions were required, no sanctions were warranted, and a report should be made to OLAW. NIH funds were used to support this project. The IACUC determined that the Animal Concern Report (ACR) would remain open until all required training was conducted.

DCM and OACU staff conducted the trainings as soon as possible after the winter holidays on January 15, January 21, and January 23. The IACUC met on February 12, 2020 and voted unanimously to accept the ACS recommendations and close the ACR.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions regarding this investigation.

Sincerely,

 (b) (6)

Terry Magnuson, PhD  
Kay M. & Van L. Weatherspoon Eminent Distinguished Professor  
Vice Chancellor for Research and Institutional Official

## Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 28, 2020 10:38 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: ACR 11-19-5

Thanks for this report, (b) (6) This format is in line with our template and how most other institution's letters look. I'll send a response soon.  
Axel Wolff

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 28, 2020 10:29 AM  
**To:** Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E] <wolffa@od.nih.gov>; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** ACR 11-19-5

Dear Dr. Wolff,

The IACUC met on February 12, 2020 and reviewed Animal Concern 11-19-5. The IACUC voted unanimously to accept the subcommittee's recommendations and close this case. A copy of the Final report for this ACR is attached. Please note that we have initiated a new process of providing the final report as a letter for consistency with other areas. The content contains the same required information, but is much more concise without the redundant template we previously provided.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

(b) (6)

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(b) (6)



## Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: (b) (6)

Date: 12/4/19

Time: 9:00

Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: U of North Carolina Chapel HillAssurance number: A3410Did incident involve PHS funded activity? Yes

Funding component: \_\_\_\_\_

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

What happened?

Rat awake during perfusion, student is - anesthetized animalSpecies involved: Rat

Personnel involved:

Dates and times:

Animal deaths:

Projected plan and schedule for correction/prevention (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Revoke animal use privileges

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # \_\_\_\_\_